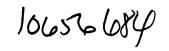
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.usplo.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/656,684	09/05/2003	Jeff Miller	HALB:045	8556
7590 02/01/2007			EXAMINER	
Karen B. Tripp Attorney at Law			TUCKER, PHILIP C	
PO Box 1301 Houston, TX 77251-1301			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
110451011, 171 /	7231 1301		1712	
SHORTENED STATUTOR	RY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
30 DAYS		02/01/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.





Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

NOTICE REQUIRING EXCESS CLAIMS FEES

The excess claim(s) filed on <u>January 19, 2007</u> is not accompanied by the appropriate payment of excess claims fees set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(h)-(j) or 1.492(d)-(f). Excess claims fees are required for each claim in independent form in excess of three (§ 1.16(h)), each claim (whether dependent or independent) in excess of twenty (note that § 1.75(c) indicates how multiple dependent claims are considered for fee calculation purposes) (§ 1.16(i)), and each application that contains a multiple dependent claim (§ 1.16(j)).

Since the application is not under a final rejection, applicant is given a time period of **ONE** (1) **MONTH or THIRTY** (30) **DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, to submit either: (1) the fee payment of \$200.00, or (2) an amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121 that cancels the excess claim(s), in order to avoid ABANDONMENT. Extensions of this time period may be granted under 37 CFR 1.136, unless the excess claim(s) was presented in a preliminary amendment.

	a preliminary amendment.
	The funds in Deposit Account No. <u>50-0807</u> are insufficient to cover the entire fee due. The balance is due within the time period set forth in this notice. See note below regarding the appropriate service charge.
2	The Credit Card payment to cover the entire fee due to Account (Card type + last 4 digits ONLY) was refused. The balance is due within the time period set forth in this notice. See note below regarding the appropriate service charge.
3	The amendment that includes the excess claim(s) has not been entered, since applicant has failed to remit (or authorize charge to a Deposit Account or Credit Card) the fee as indicated on the attached Patent Application Fee Determination Record (PTO/SB/06). Remittance or authorization is due within the time period set forth in this notice.
4	The fee submitted in this application is insufficient. A balance of \$ is due for presentation of excess claims (37 CFR 1.16(h)-(j) or 1.492(d)-(f)).
5	Other.
	(Provide specific details of the required correction in order to assist the applicant. Indicate whether a ge has been added to the fee due):
1.16, 1.21 & WITH THE DUE IS SUE	NT OF THE FEE(S) DUE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE, GENERALLY ON OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR (37 CFR 1.492). THE AMOUNT OF THE FEE(S) DUE IS DETERMINED AS OF THE DATE A COMPLETE REPLY APPROPRIATE FEE(S) IS RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE (37 CFR 1.8 & 1.10). BECAUSE THE AMOUNT DIECT TO CHANGE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT APPLICANT CHECK THE CURRENT FEE SCHEDULE VAILABLE ON THE USPTO'S WEBSITE AT: http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/qs/ope/fees.htm
charged back	rges: There is a \$50 service charge for processing each payment refused (including a check returned "unpaid") or by a financial institution (37 CFR 1.21(m)). There is a \$25.00 service charge for each month when the balance of a unt is below \$1000 at the end of the month (37 CFR 1.21(b)(2)).

Technical Support Staff (TSS)

Note to TSS: Please do NOT use this notice if the application is under a final rejection.